TV’s Jazziest Theme Songs: 1957-1993 (A Mike Solof Guest Post)

Hey guys,

It’s time for another Mike Solof Guest Post!

I love jazz and I love old TV themes! When I was eight years old back in 1971, I used to stand in front of my TV set all day with a big ole cassette recorder and record theme songs off the TV to add to my personal collection. This was 15 years before record companies like TeeVee Toons put out their collections (and made millions).

I was a little kid ahead of my time!

But that was then and this is now... and I still love TV theme songs! So, this time around, I stole (I mean I "was inspired by") an idea from something I saw on some other site somewhere, and thought I would make it my own and run with it! I really liked the idea of combining my love of jazz with my love of TV tunes. But the problem with the collection I saw on the other site was that their song choices were lacking, so I decided to burrow the idea and then completely change the contents to better represent the idea!

This is my collection of theme songs recorded between 1957 and 1993 that I personally curated to be a beautiful mix of original theme songs performed by the original artists, and covers that brilliantly expand upon the originals to really flesh out the themes we already know

and love. Note that virtually all the songs are instrumentals.

This was a blast to put together and I hope you find it as relaxing and fun to listen to as I do.

Michael

P.S.- I did do two major edits on "Hill Street Blues" and "Angela (Theme to Taxi)." On Hill Street Blues, I edited another very bluesy piano section from the original soundtrack called "Blues in the Day," into the middle of the track and then returned back to the main theme at the end. I did the same thing to "Angela" by combining two different versions to create a more jazzy one for this set. I also slightly edited the ending of "Perry Mason."

Here's the track list, with the years included:

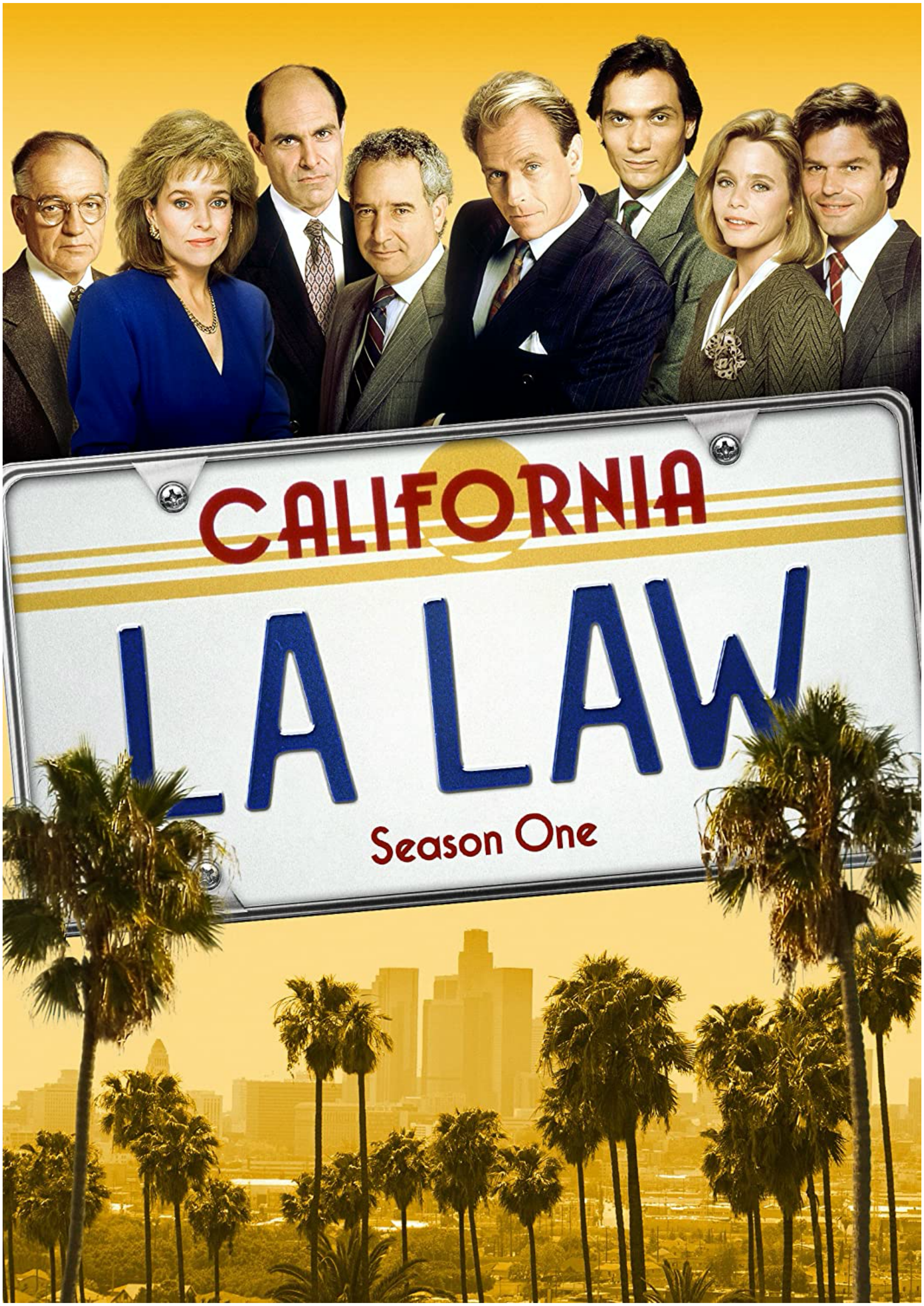
01 Midnight Caller Theme (Rick Braun) - 1992
02 Banacek (John Gregory & His Orchestra) - 1972
03 Lou Grant Theme (Patrick Williams) - 1977
04 Hill Street Blues - Blues in the Day - Hill Street Blues [Edit] (Mike Post) - 1981
05 L.A. Law (Mike Post) - 1986
06 The Streets of San Fransisco (John Gregory & His Orchestra) - 1972
07 Mission- Impossible (Lalo Schifrin) - 1966
08 Mannix (John Gregory & His Orchestra) - 1969
09 Theme from The Man from U.N.C.L.E. (Hugo Montenegro & His Orchestra) - 1966
10 Hawaii Five-O (Ventures) - 1968
11 Mod Squad (Al Caiola) - 1968
12 Jonny Quest (Hoyt Curtin) - 1964
13 I Spy (Earle Hagan) - 1965
14 Police Squad Theme Song (Ira Newborn) - 1982
15 Get Smart Original Theme (Irving Szathmary) - 1965
16 The Pink Panther Theme (Henry Mancini) - 1964
17 Peter Gunn Theme (Blues Brothers) - 1980
18 The Magician (Patrick Williams) - 1973

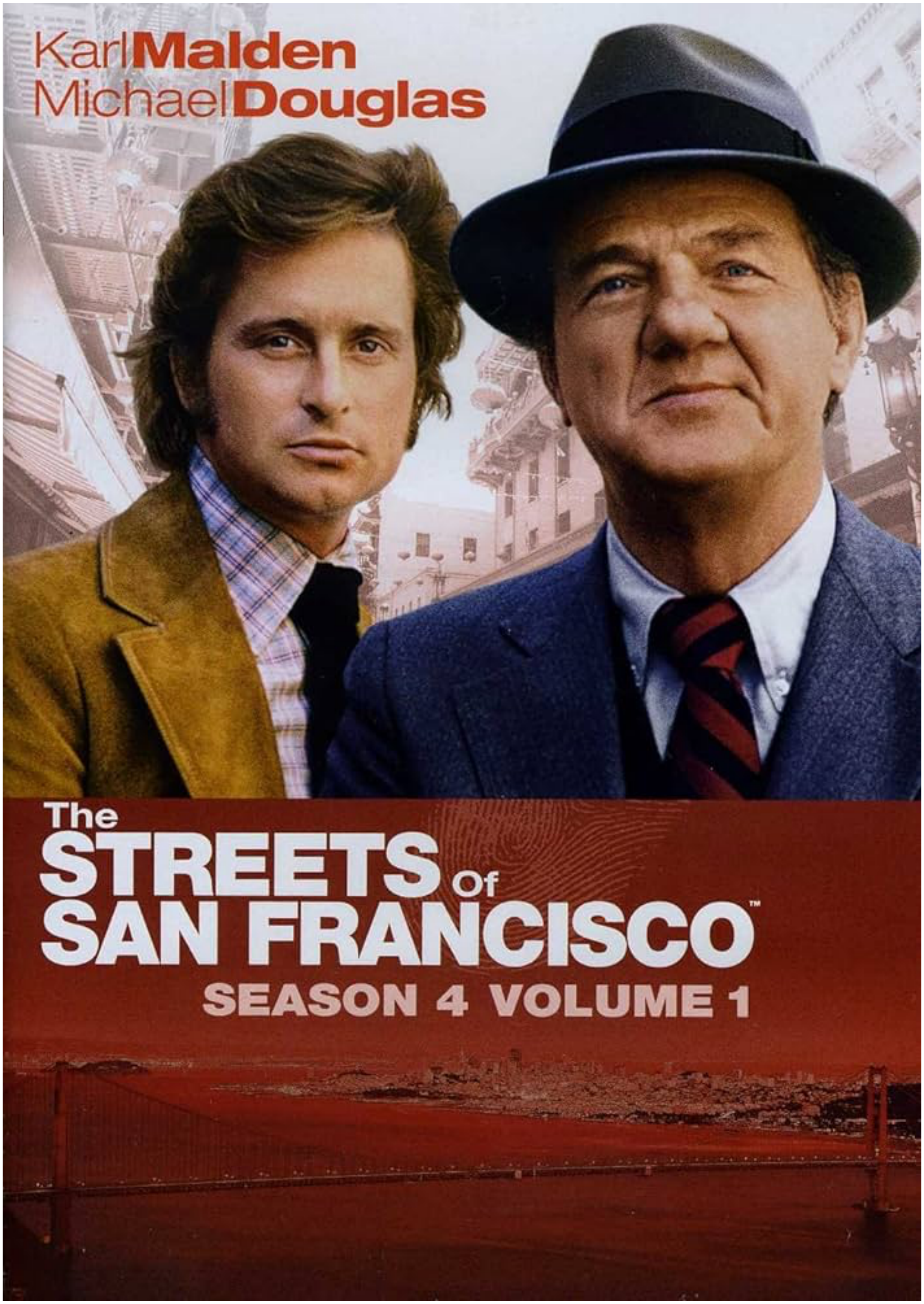
19 Policewoman (John Gregory & His Orchestra) - 1973
20 Harry-O (John Gregory & His Orchestra) - 1977
21 McMillan and Wife (John Gregory & His Orchestra) - 1971
22 Mike Hammer (Earle Hagen) - 1984
23 Spenser- For Hire Theme (Larry Herbstritt & Steve Dorff) - 1985
24 Perry Mason (Fred Steiner) - 1957
25 Night Court (Jack Elliott) - 1984
26 Barney Miller (Jack Elliott) - 1978
27 Frasier (Bruce Miller) - 1993
28 The Bob Newhart Show [The Home to Emily] (L.&H. Music) - 1972
29 The Cosby Show Theme [Kiss Me] [Alternate Version] (Stu Gardner & Bill Cosby) - 1984
30 Angela [Theme to Taxi] [Edit] (Bob James) - 1978

This is Jack Killian, the Nighthawk, on KJCM, 98.3,
and good-night America... wherever you are.

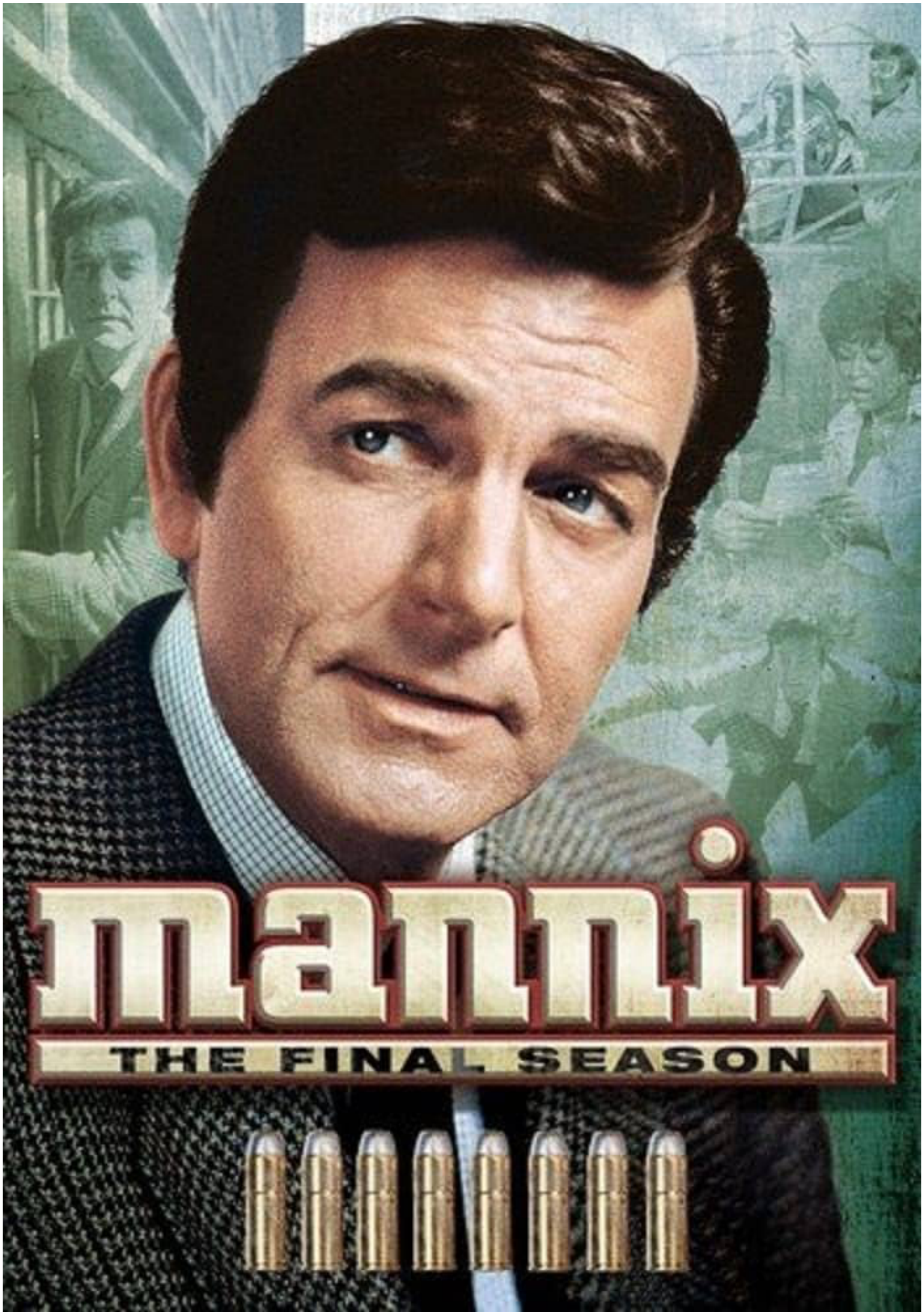
LOU
GRANT

SEASON TWO
HILL STREET BLUES
Hill Street Blues

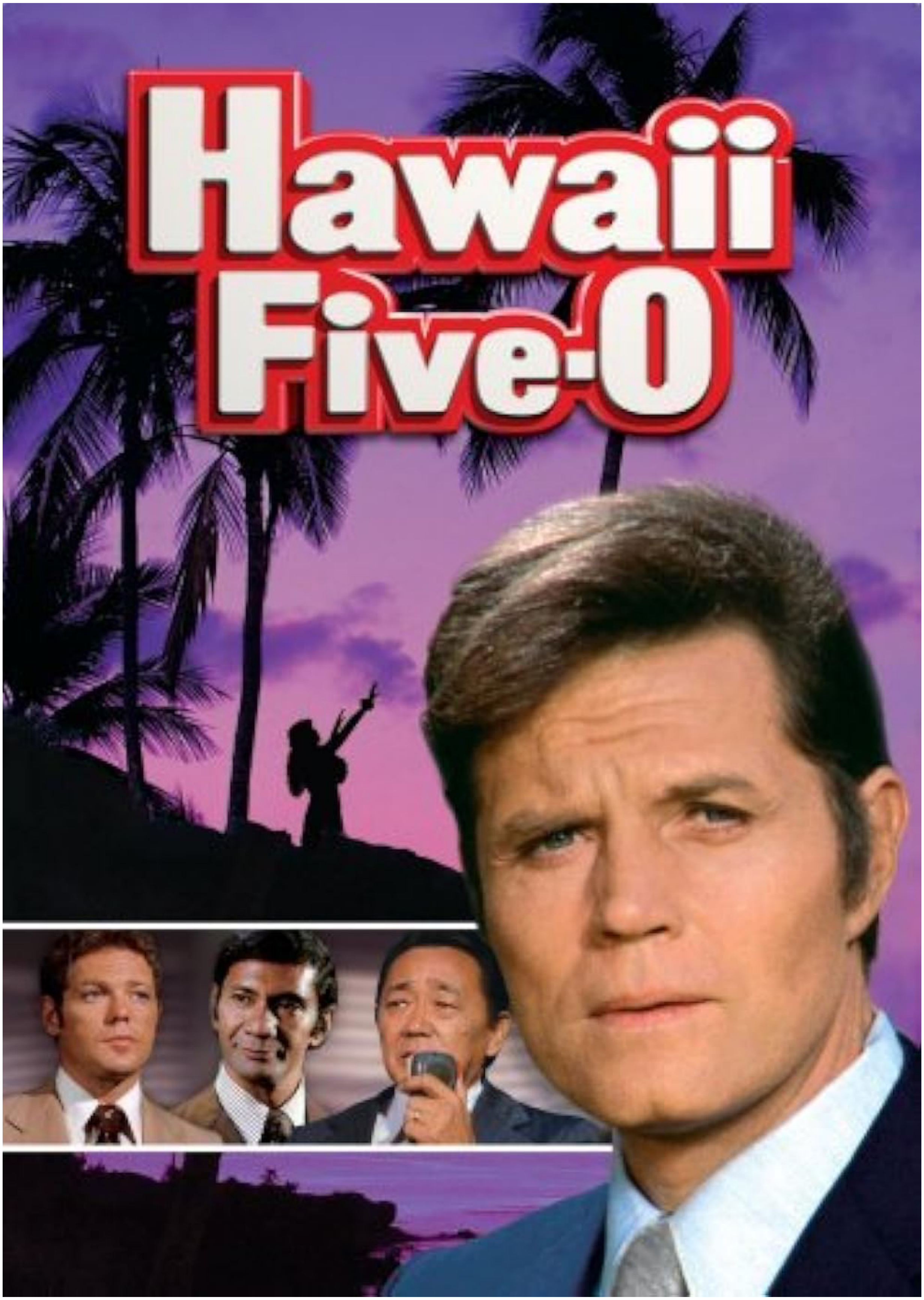

CALIFORNIA
LA LAW
Season One

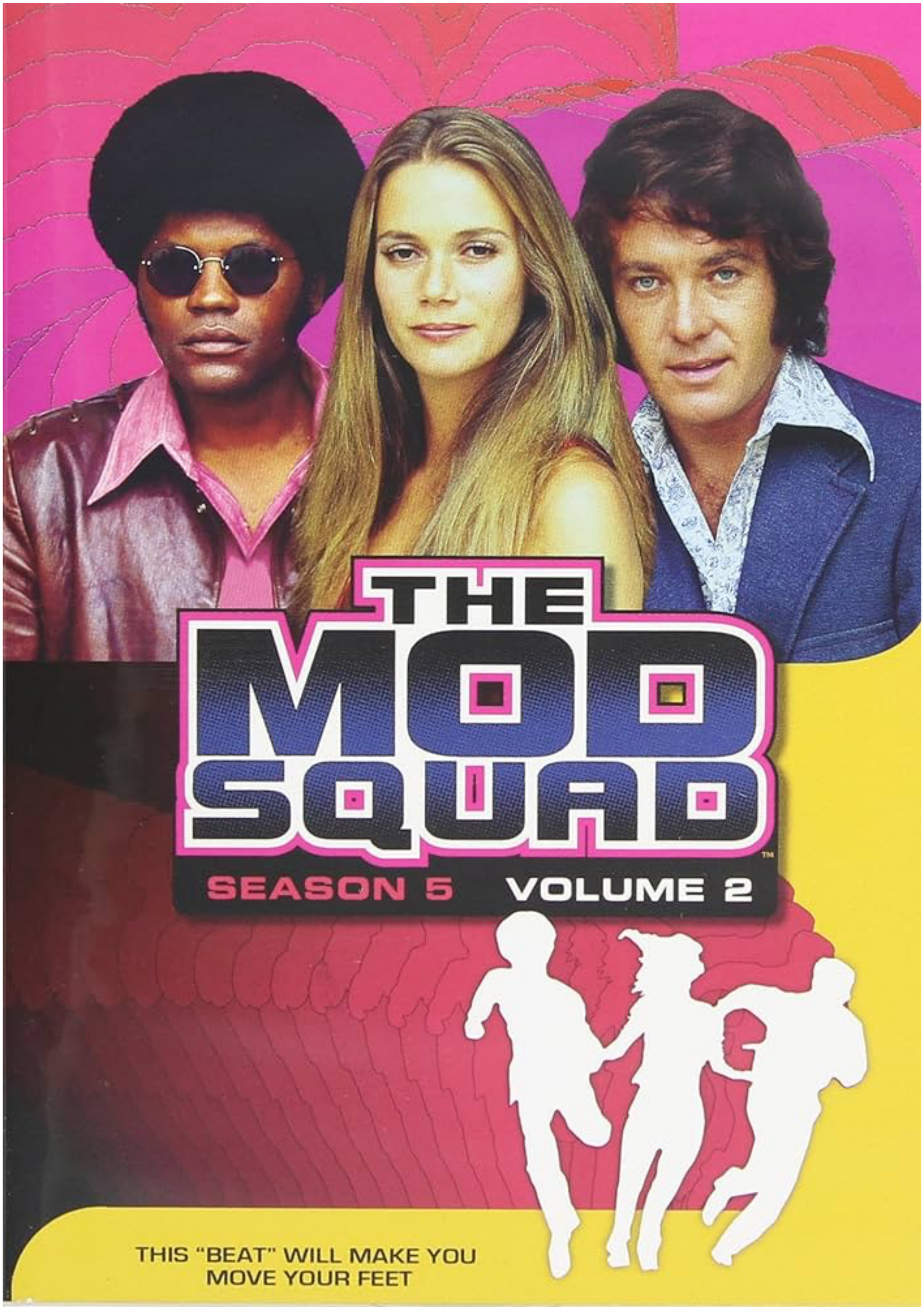

Karl Malden
Michael Douglas
The STREETS of SAN FRANCISCO™
SEASON 4 VOLUME 1

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE

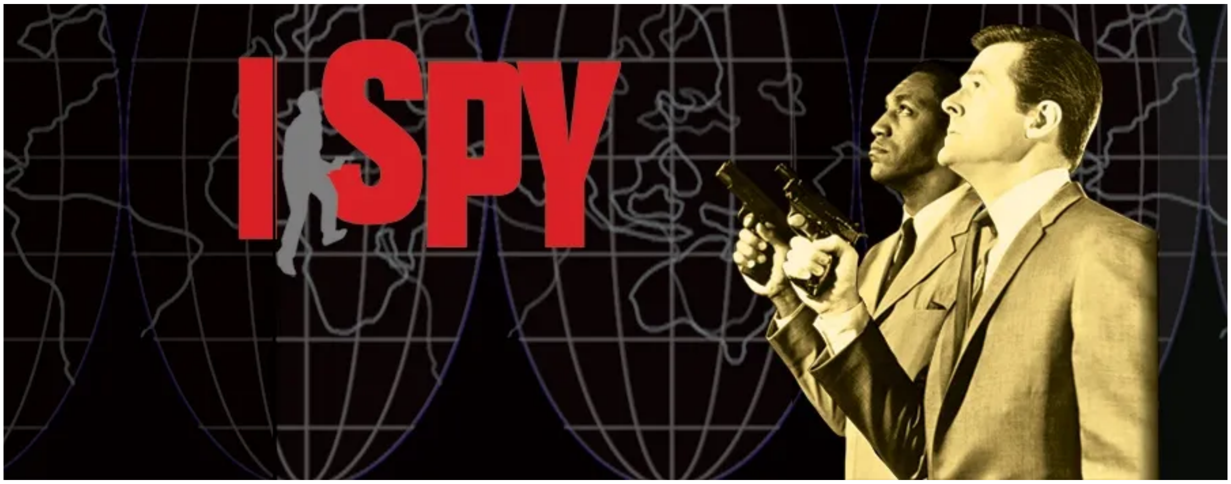

mannix
THE FINAL SEASON

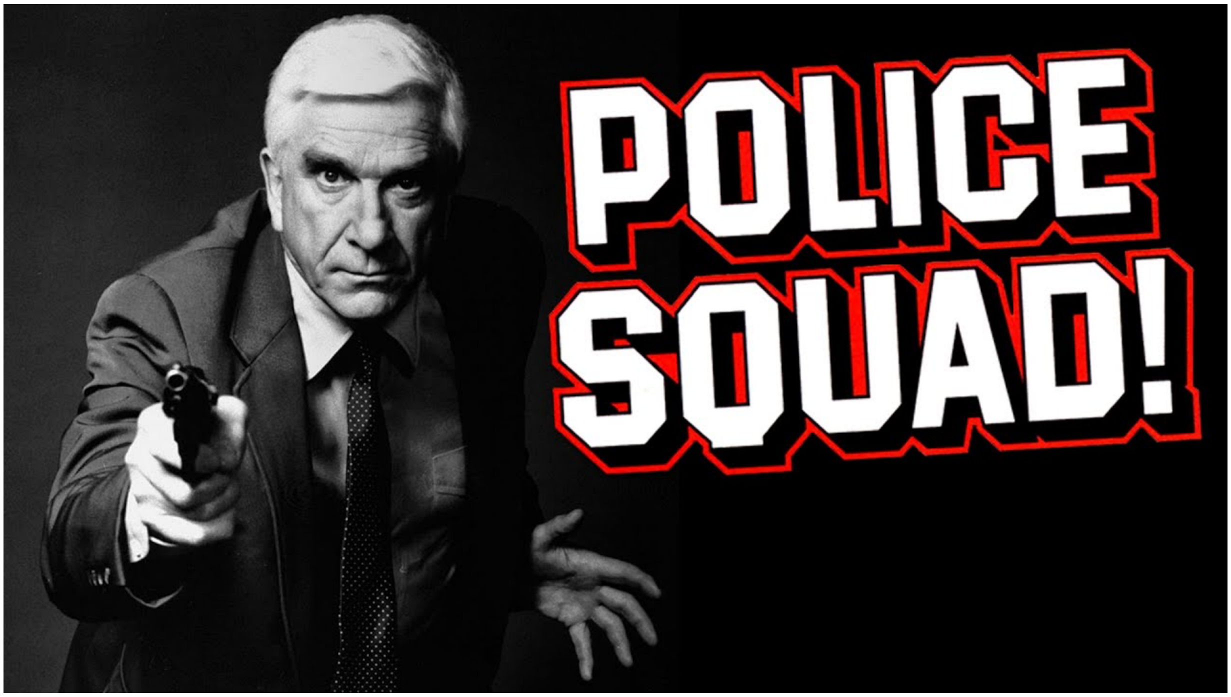
THE MAN FROM
U.N.C.L.E.


Hawaii
Five-O

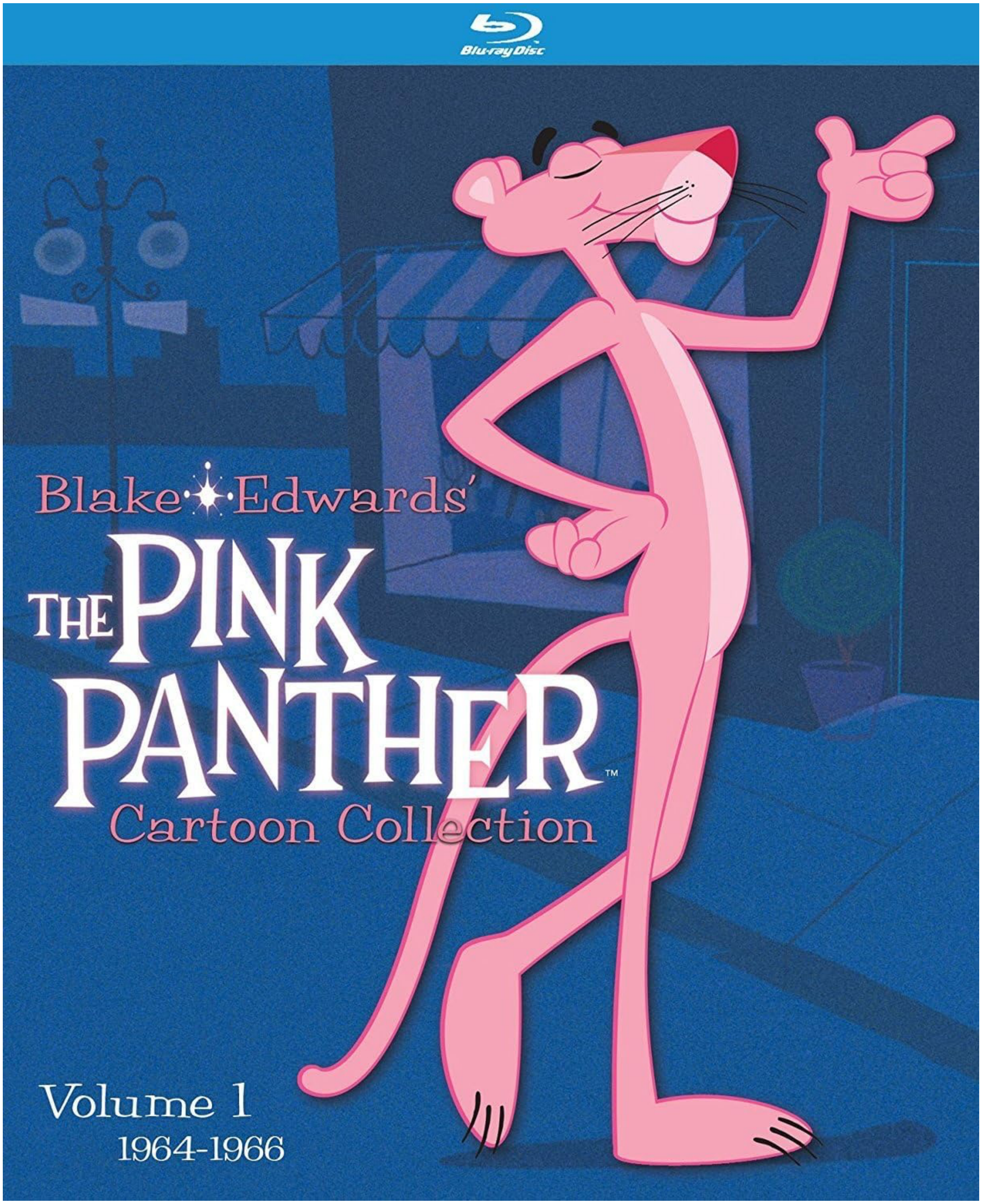

THE MOD SQUAD™
SEASON 5
VOLUME 2
THIS "BEAT" WILL MAKE YOU MOVE YOUR FEET

JONNY Quest
TM


I SPY

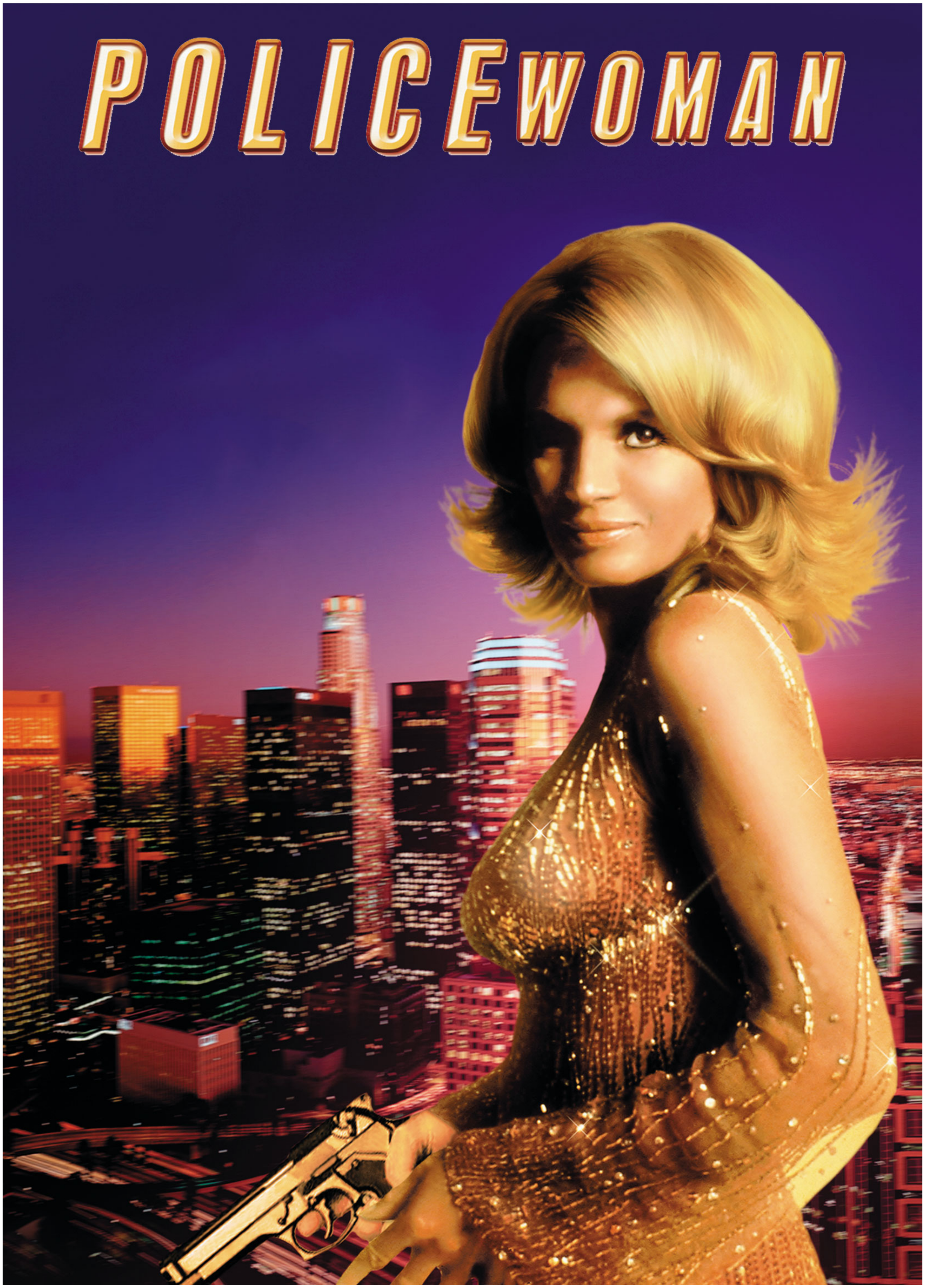

POLICE
SQUAD!

GET
SMART


Blu-ray Disc
Blake Edwards'
THE PINK PANTHER™
Cartoon Collection
Volume 1
1964-1966

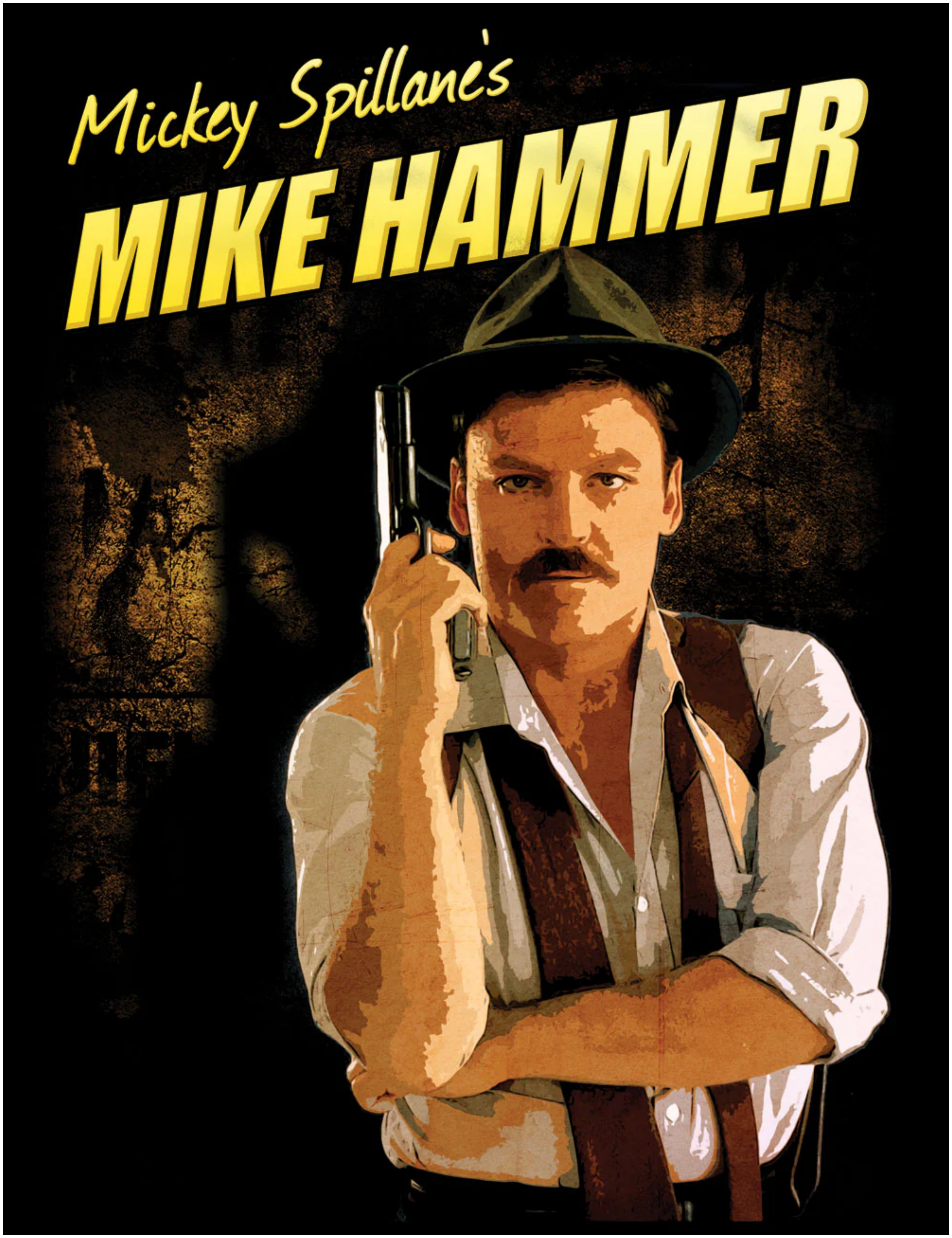
PETER GUNN

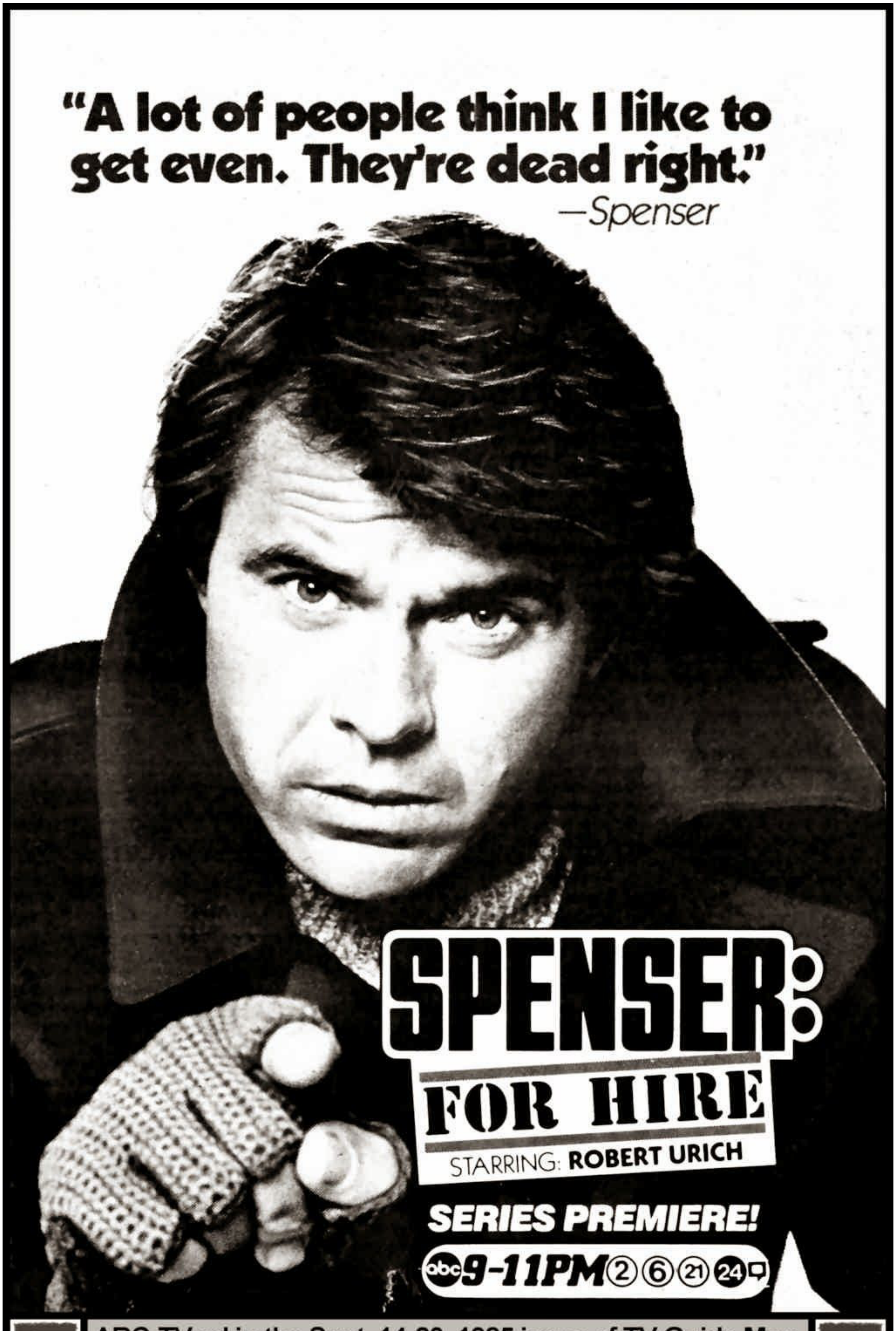
JOKER
The Magician


POLICE WOMAN

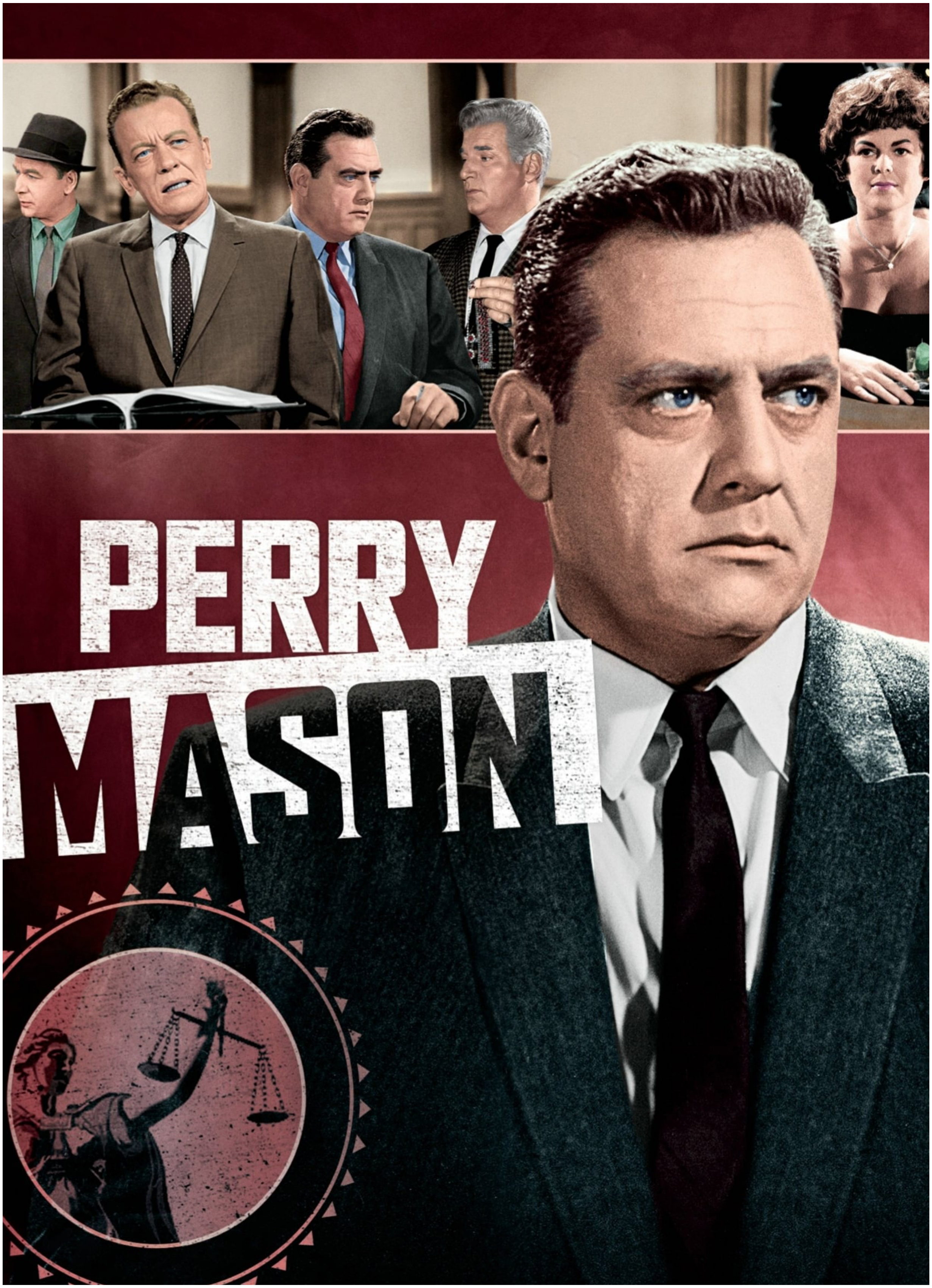
HARRY O
EPISODIO COMPLETO

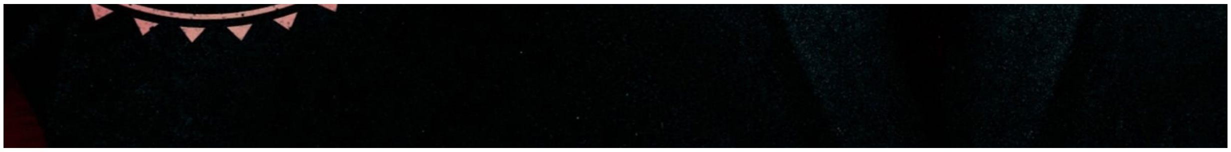
McMILLAN & WIFE
SEASON ONE


Mickey Spillane's
MIKE HAMMER


"A lot of people think I like to get even. They're dead right."
—Spenser
SPENSER:
FOR HIRE
STARRING: ROBERT URICH
SERIES PREMIERE!
abc 9-11PM ② ⑥ ㉑ ㉔

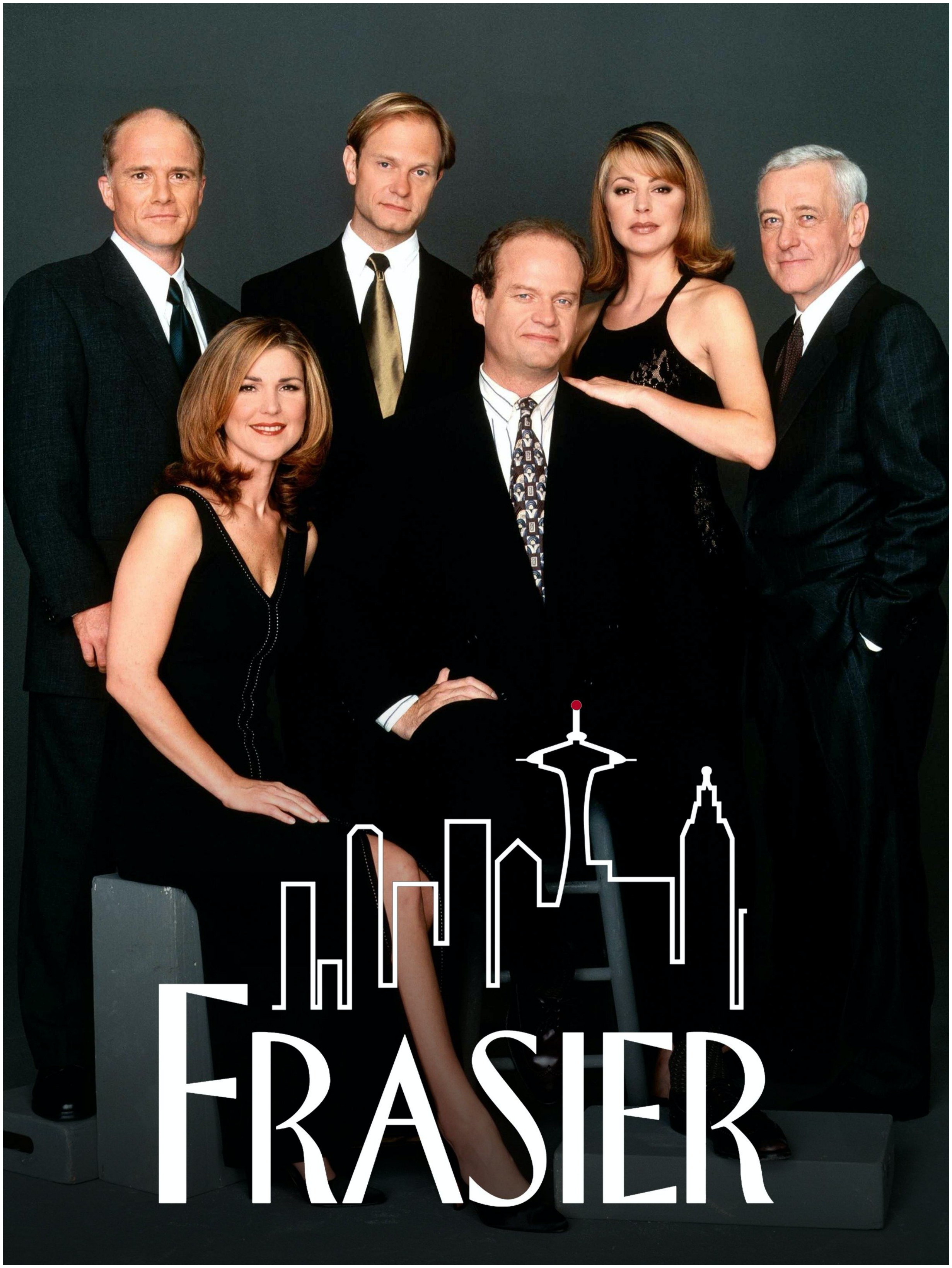
ABC-TV ad in the Sept. 14-20, 1985 issue of TV Guide Mag.
(Toledo-Lima Edition) vintagetoledotv.squarespace.com/


PERRY
MASON

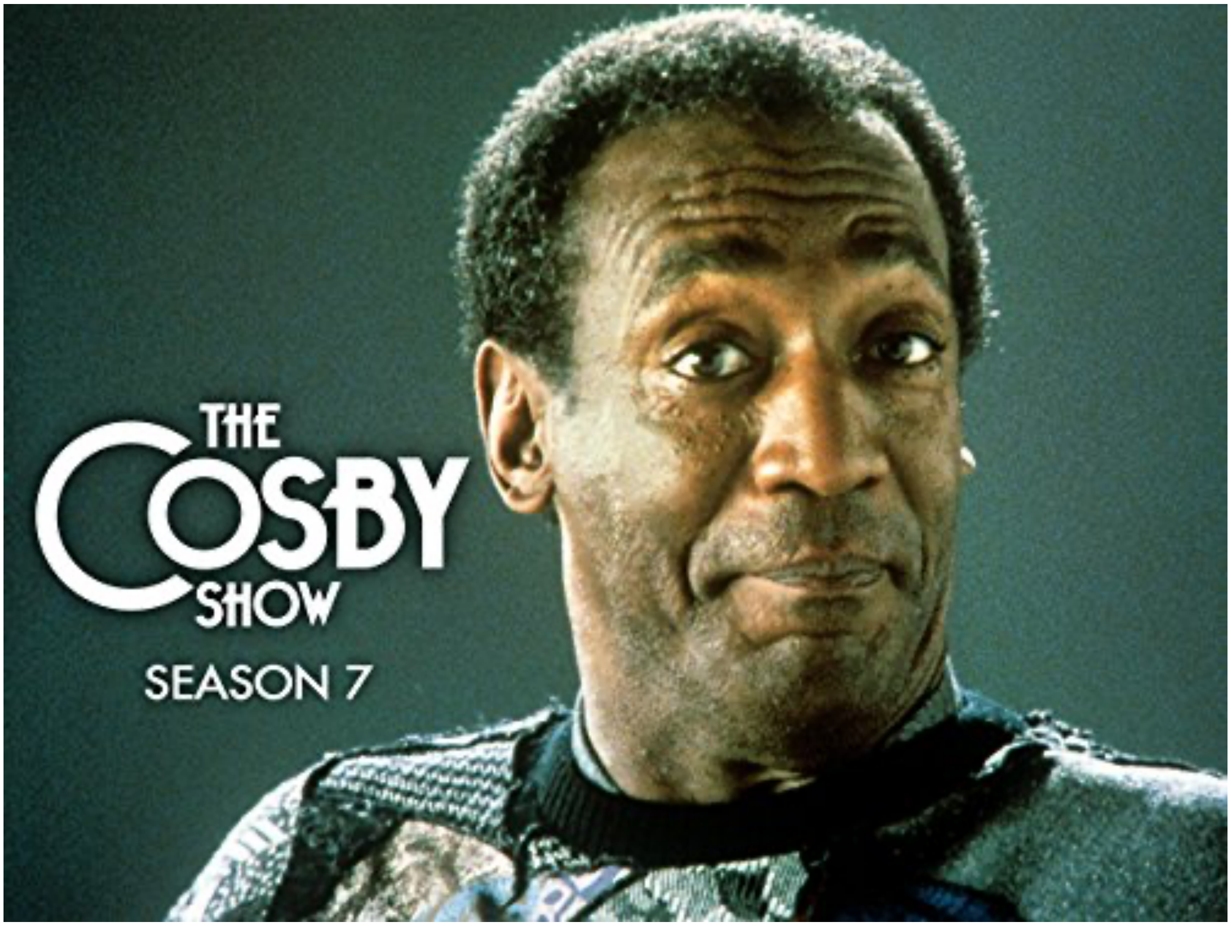


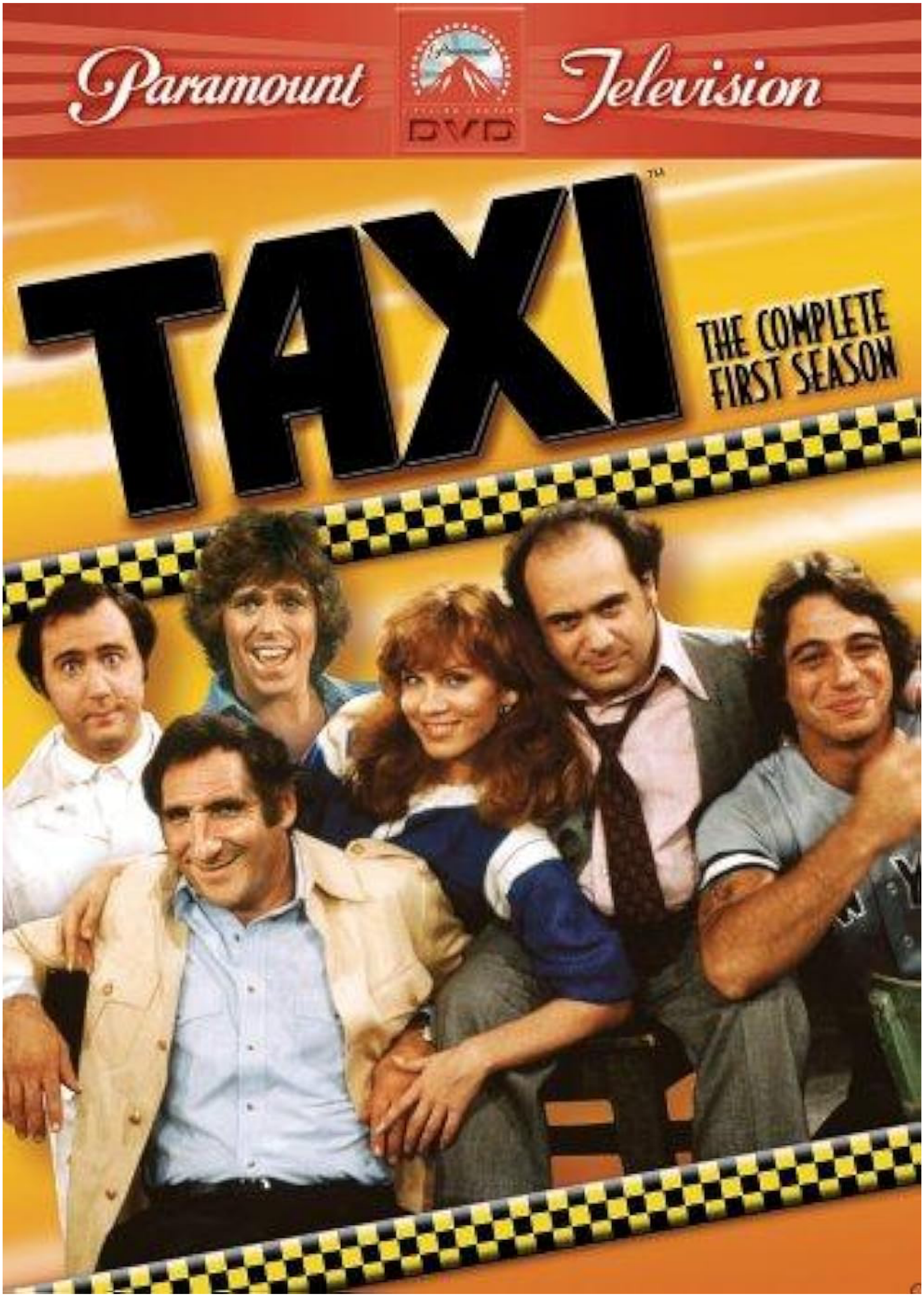
Night Court

CAPT. B. MILLER
LIST OF WANTED
LIST OF WANTED
WANTED


FRASIER

THE BOB NEWHART SHOW


THE
COSBY
SHOW
SEASON 7


Paramount Television
DVD
TAXI™
THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON